



# DURGADAS

THE LOYAL COURTIER

Vol 739







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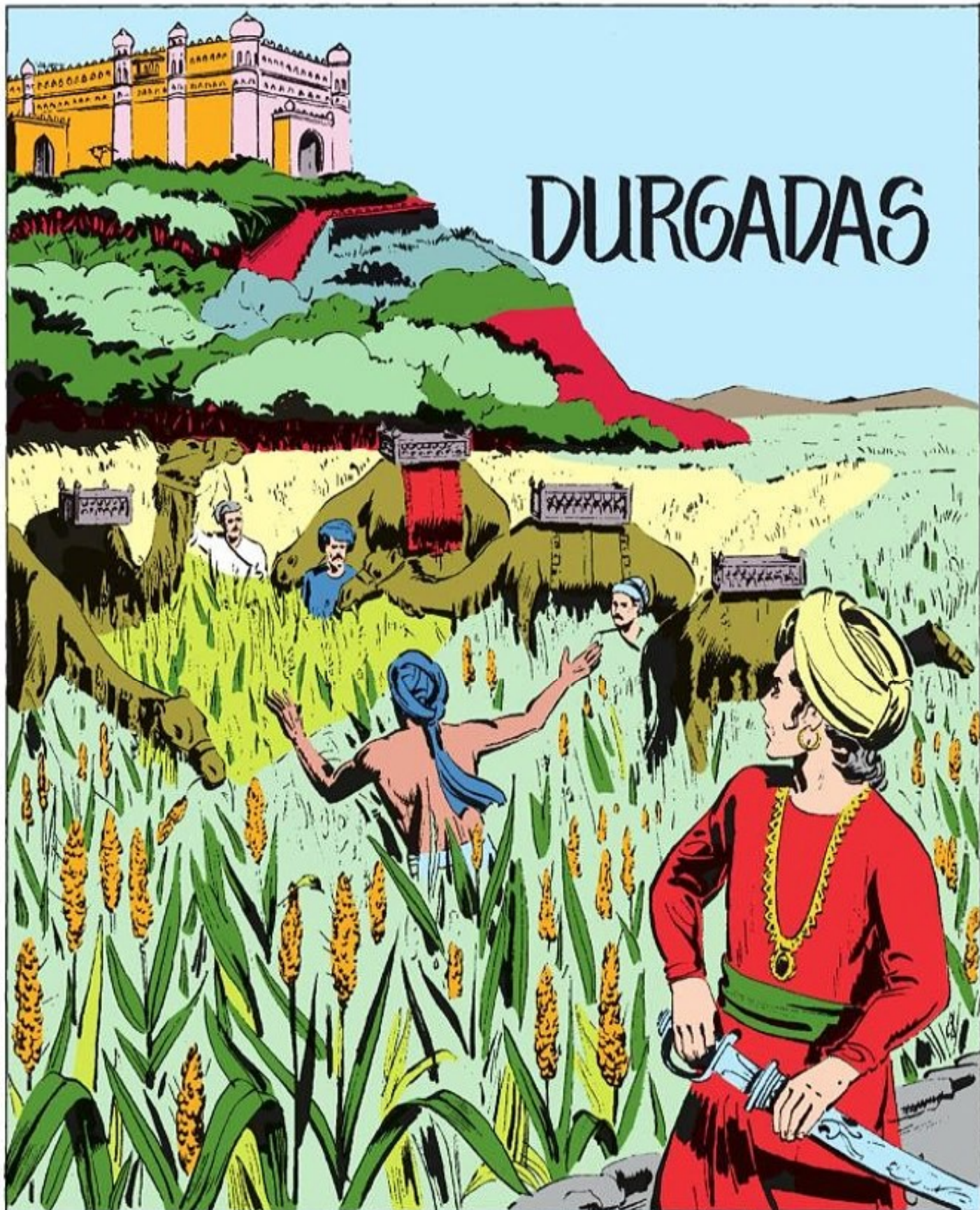
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# DURGADAS



DURGADAS WAS THE SON OF THE THIRD WIFE OF THAKUR AASKARAN, THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE KING OF JODHPUR. ONE DAY WHEN HE WAS BARELY 18 YEARS OLD, HE WAS STANDING OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF SALVE, WHERE HE LIVED WITH HIS MOTHER.







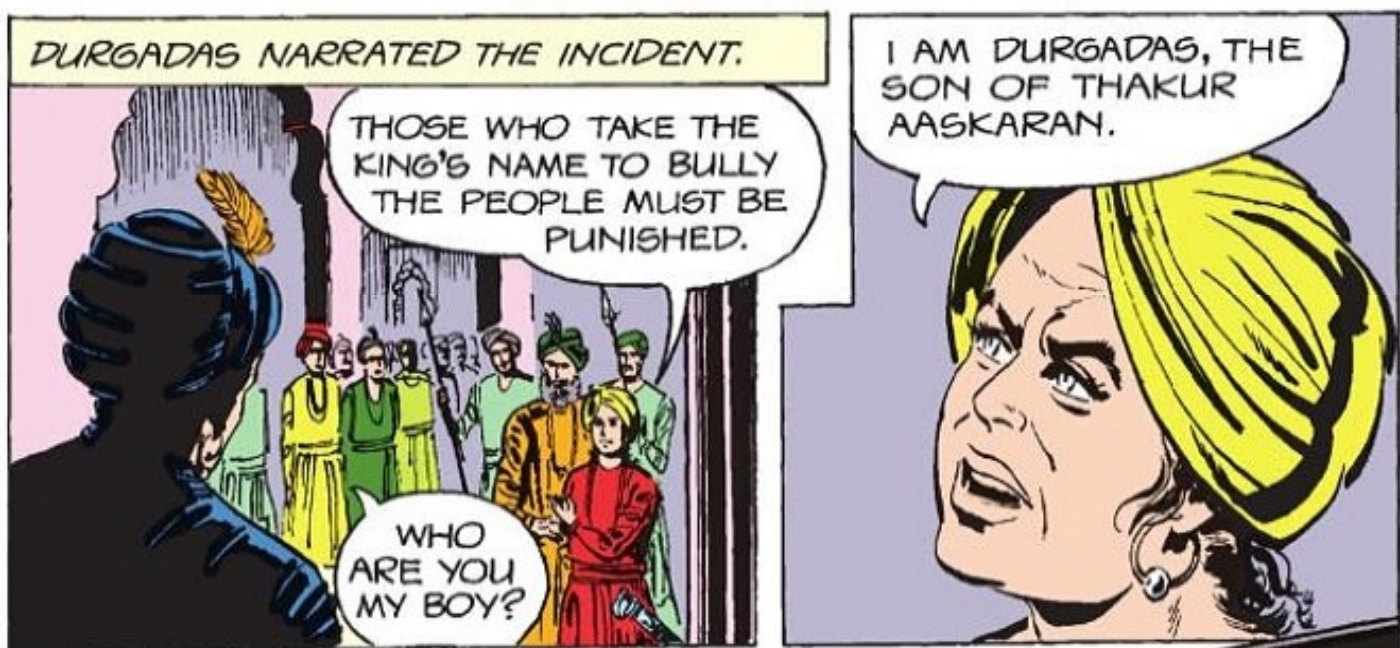


DURGADAS UNSHEATHED HIS SWORD AND WENT FORWARD TO PUNISH THE ARROGANT CAMELEERS.

THE FRIGHTENED CAMELEERS CAME RUNNING TO JASWANT SINGH, THE KING OF JODHPUR, AND COMPLAINED.







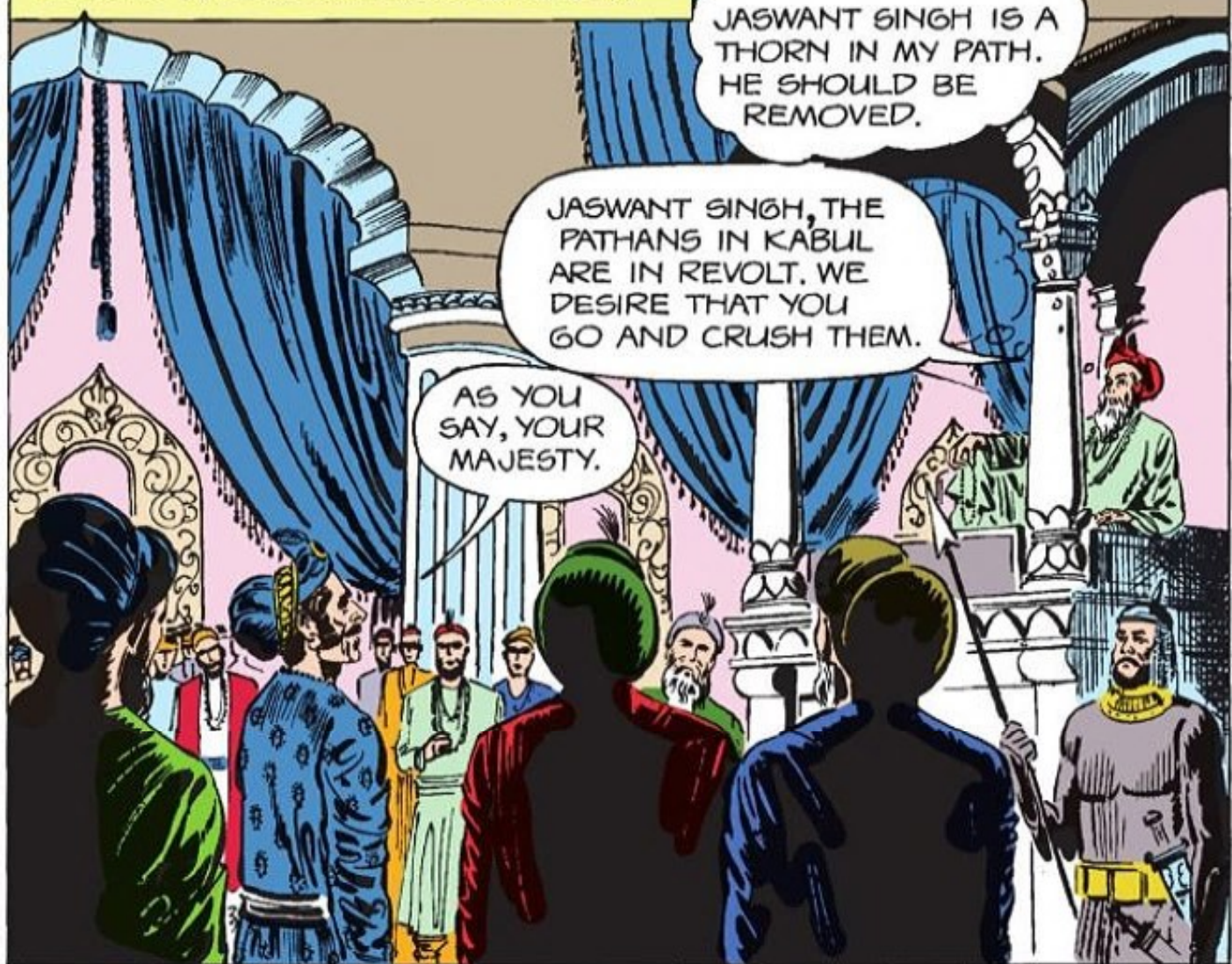


YEARS PASSED. AURANGZEB BECAME THE MUGHAL EMPEROR, AND THUS THE OVERLORD OF JASWANT SINGH WHOM HE FEARED AND RESPECTED. ONE DAY—

JASWANT SINGH IS A THORN IN MY PATH. HE SHOULD BE REMOVED.

JASWANT SINGH, THE PATHANS IN KABUL ARE IN REVOLT. WE DESIRE THAT YOU GO AND CRUSH THEM.

AS YOU SAY, YOUR MAJESTY.



DURGADAS WENT WITH JASWANT SINGH TO KABUL AND HELPED TO RESTORE PEACE. LATER—

LET US GO HUNTING TOMORROW.



THE NEXT DAY—

HARDLY ANY GAME IN THIS FOREST. LET US BREAK UP INTO TWO PARTIES AND TRY OUR LUCK SEPARATELY.





DURING THE LONG AND EXCITING CHASE, DURGADAS WAS SEPARATED FROM HIS MEN. TIRED, HE STRETCHED OUT IN A GLADE...



...WHERE JASWANT SINGH FOUND HIM AFTER SOME TIME. HE REMOVED HIS CUMMERBUND AND TIED IT TO THE TREE TO PROTECT HIM FROM THE SUN.



JASWANT SINGH DIED WHILE STILL IN KABUL. HIS QUEEN, THOUGH PREGNANT, GOT HERSELF READY FOR "SATI." DURGADAS DISSUADED HER.

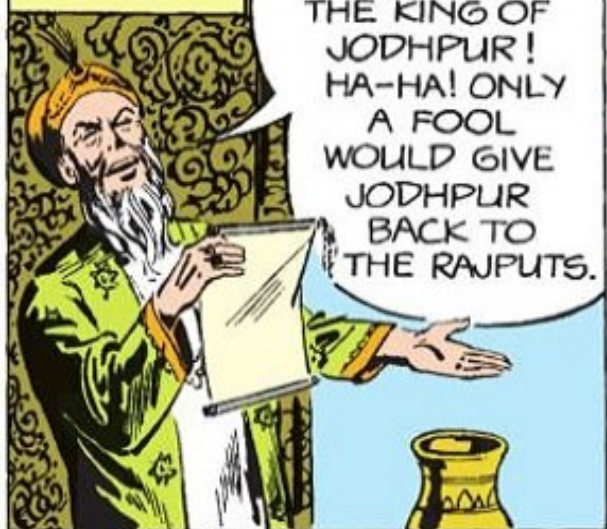




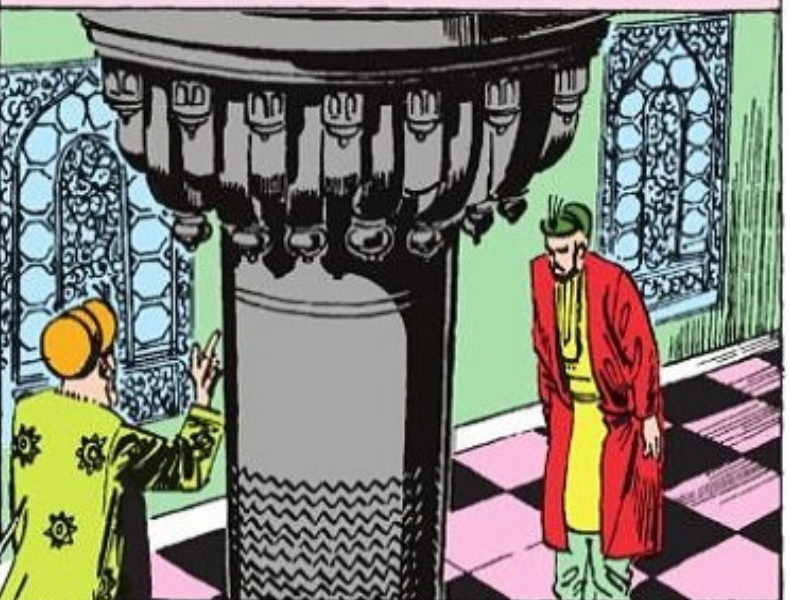
ALL OF THEM LEFT KABUL FOR JODHPUR. ON THE WAY, AT LAHORE, THE QUEEN GAVE BIRTH TO A SON. HE WAS NAMED AJEET SINGH.



BY THEN AURANGZEB HAD ANNEXED JODHPUR.



DURGADAS REACHED DELHI AND STAYED AT A FRIEND'S PALACE. MEANWHILE, AT AURANGZEB'S COURT-



TELL DURGADAS TO PRESENT THE QUEEN MOTHER AND THE PRINCE AT OUR PALACE.

I SHALL FORCE THEM TO GET CONVERTED TO ISLAM.



WHEN DURGADAS REFUSED TO GO TO THE MUGHAL COURT, AURANQZEB WAS ANGRY.

SEE THAT THEY DON'T LEAVE DELHI.



THE PALACE WHERE DURGADAS WAS STAYING WAS SURROUNDED.



DURGADAS WAS FURIOUS. HE TOOK AN OATH.



I SOLEMNLY VOW TO FREE JODHPUR FROM THE MUGHALS AND CROWN AJEET SINGH KING.

FIRST, WE MUST GET AJEET SINGH TO A SAFE PLACE.

DO WHAT YOU FEEL IS BEST.



DURGADAS HATCHED A PLOT WITH THE HELP OF GOR TAK, A FAITHFUL MAID OF THE QUEEN.

GOR TAK, THIS IS WHAT YOU MUST DO. AND DO IT TOMORROW.

YES, SIR!





THE NEXT DAY, GOR TAK,  
DISGUISED AS A  
SWEEPER...



...HID THE SLEEPING PRINCE  
IN HER BASKET...



...AND AS PLANNED,  
TOOK HIM TO  
MUKUND DAS, A  
RAJPUT  
DISGUISED AS  
A SNAKE  
CHARMER.



MUKUND DAS PUT THE PRINCE INTO ONE OF  
HIS BASKETS...

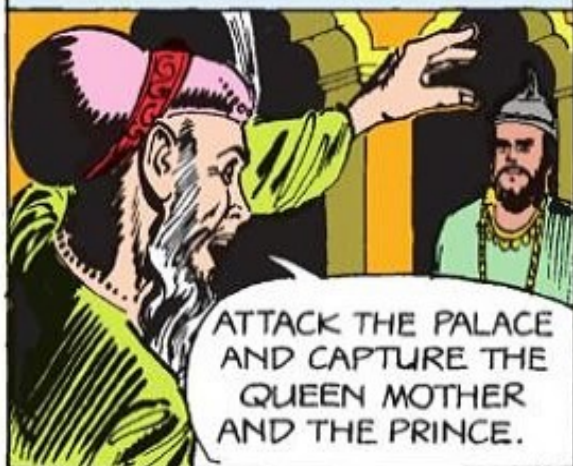


...AND LEFT FOR  
UDAIPUR.





THE RAJPUTS REFUSED TO SURRENDER TO THE MUGHALS. AURANGZEB LOST HIS PATIENCE.



ATTACK THE PALACE AND CAPTURE THE QUEEN MOTHER AND THE PRINCE.

DURGADAS, SURRENDER OR ELSE YOU DIE.



DURGADAS WOULD NOT YIELD TO THREATS. NOR WOULD THE QUEEN MOTHER. DRESSED AS A SOLDIER, SHE TOO GOT READY FOR THE FIGHT.



WE MUST FIGHT AND TRY TO ESCAPE.

IT IS BETTER TO DIE FIGHTING THAN TO SURRENDER.



OPEN THE GATE AND ATTACK.





AFTER A BITTER FIGHT, DURGADAS, THE  
QUEEN MOTHER AND SOME 300  
RAJPUT SOLDIERS ESCAPED.





HAVING REACHED LIDAIPIUR, THEY SOUGHT THE HELP OF RANA RAJ SINGH, THE KING OF MEWAR.

YOU SHALL BE UNDER MY CARE.



WHEN AURANGZEB CAME TO KNOW OF IT—

HOW DARE RAJ SINGH GO AGAINST MY WISHES! HE MUST BE TAUGHT A LESSON.

COMMANDER! MOUNT AN ATTACK ON LIDAIPIUR AT ONCE.





AT UDAIPUR—

MAHARANA,  
AURANGZEB'S  
SON, AKBAR  
AND HIS ARMY  
ARE CLOSING  
IN.

DURGADAS,  
WE ARE  
ALSO  
PREPARED.  
AS FOR  
AJEET, HE  
IS NOW  
IN A  
SAFE  
PLACE.

AURANGZEB TOO  
IS ADVANCING TO-  
WARDS UDAIPUR.  
THIS TIME WE MUST  
TEACH THEM A  
GOOD LESSON.

HIS QUEEN IS  
ALSO WITH HIM.  
SHE MUST BE  
CAPTURED AND  
BROUGHT  
TO ME.

A BATTALION UNDER JAI SINGH, SON OF RAJ SINGH, SET OUT TO FIGHT AKBAR. DURGADAS AND HIS MEN MARCHED TOWARDS DEWARI TO MEET AURANGZEB AND HIS FORCES.





IT WAS A FIERCE BATTLE BETWEEN THE FORCES OF DURGADAS AND AURANGZEB.

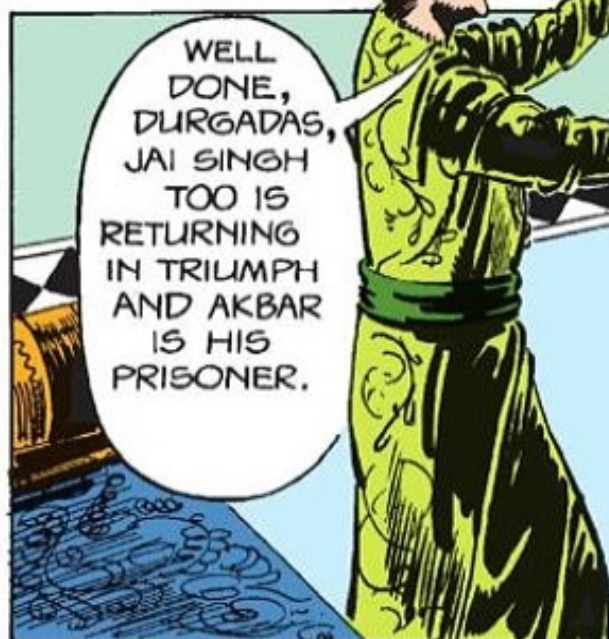


THE CHASE TOOK THE MUGHALS TOO DEEP INTO THE RAVINE.

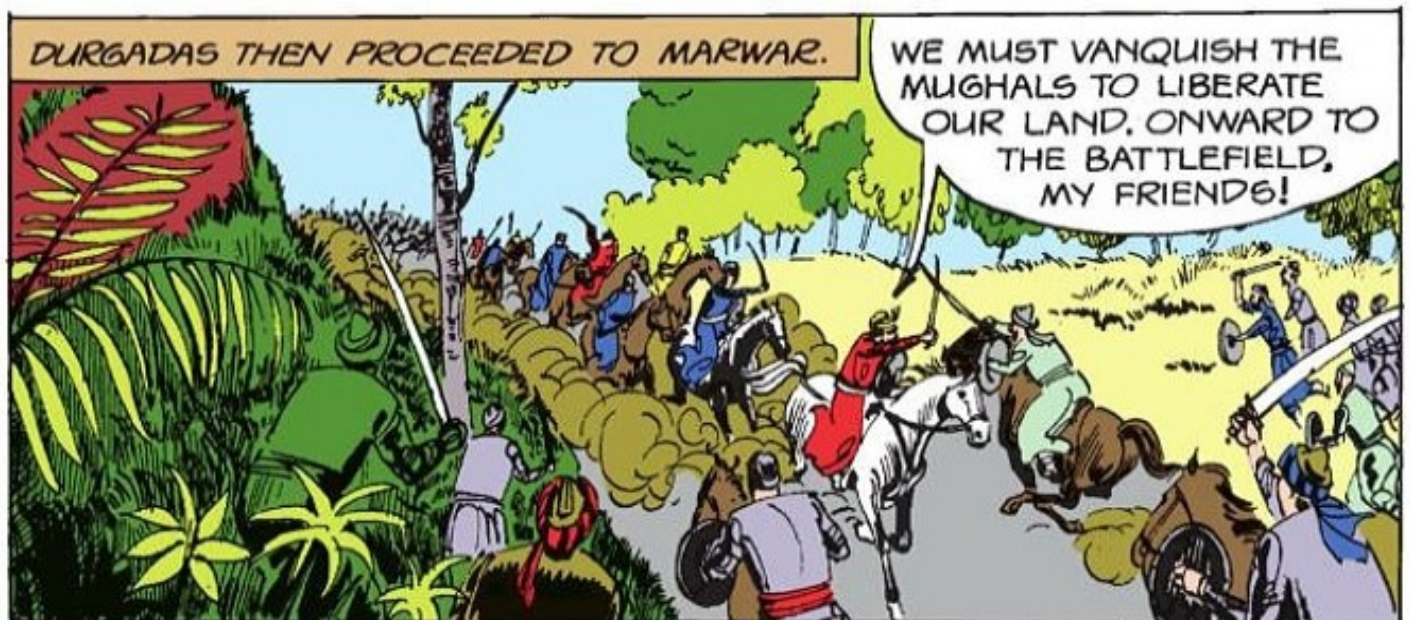
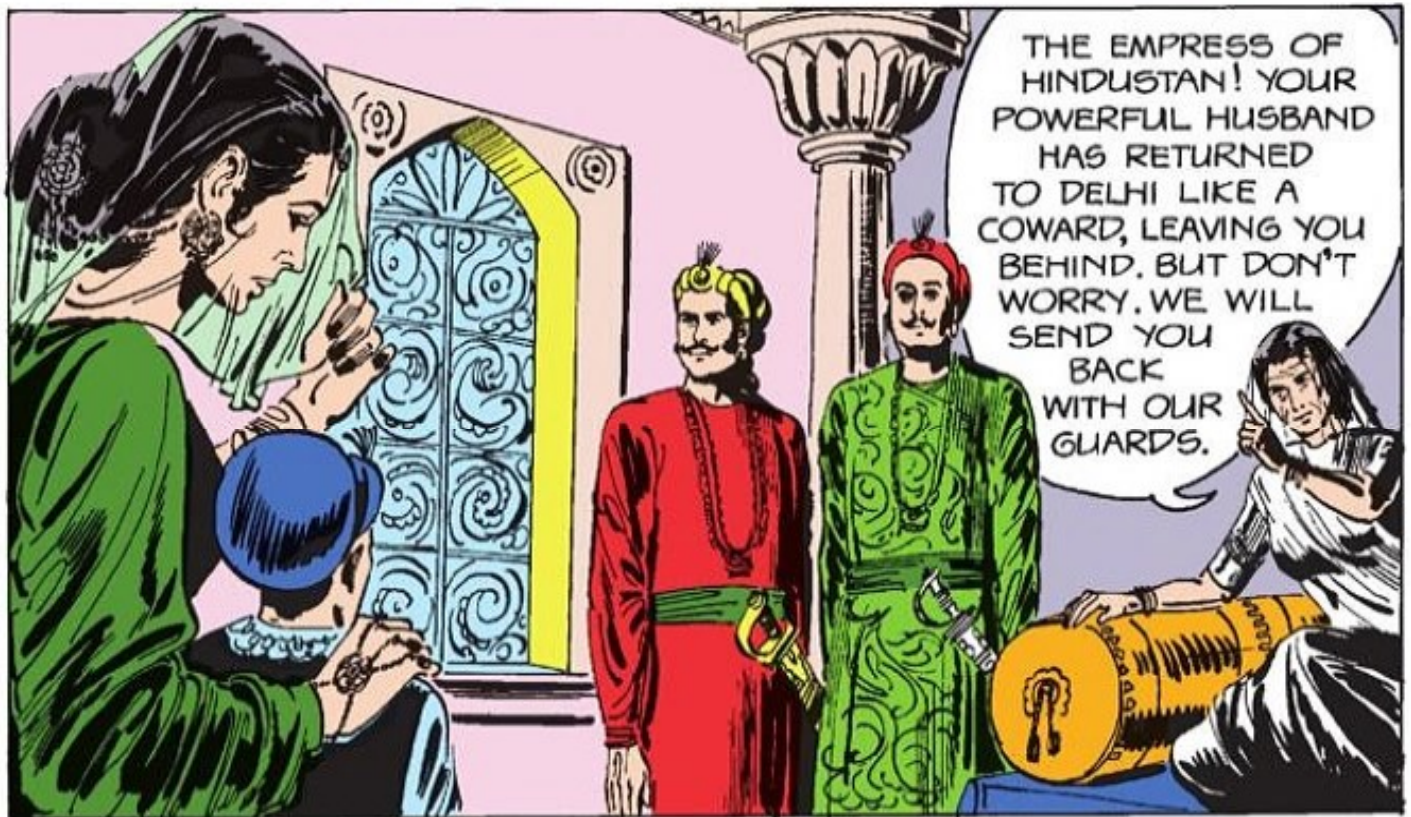
DURGADAS TRIED A RUSE. HE PRETENDED TO RUN AWAY FROM THE BATTLEFIELD AND THUS LED THE PURSUING FORCES OF AURANGZEB INTO A RAVINE.













THE FIGHT AGAINST THE MUGHALS WENT ON FOR A LONG TIME.



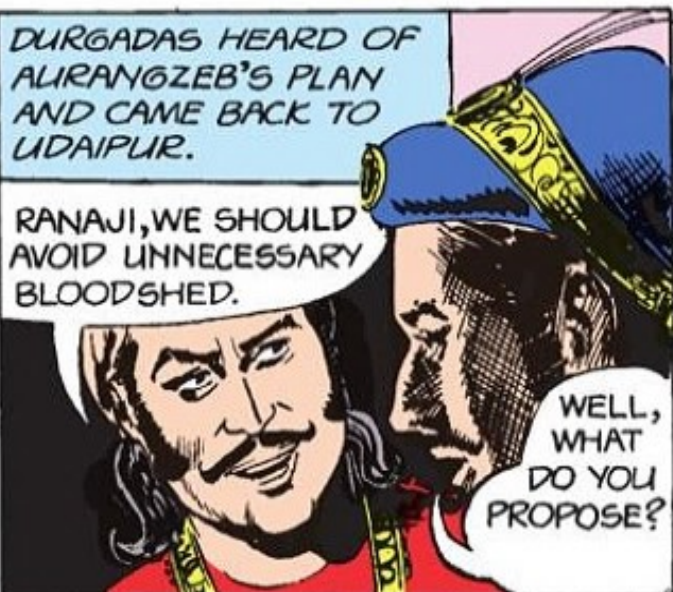
WHEN RAJ SINGH DIED, JAI SINGH BECAME THE RANA. AURANGZEB SAW IN THIS, AN OPPORTUNITY FOR REVENGE.



DURGADAS HEARD OF AURANGZEB'S PLAN AND CAME BACK TO UDAIPUR.

RANAJI, WE SHOULD AVOID UNNECESSARY BLOODSHED.

WELL, WHAT DO YOU PROPOSE?





JAI SINGH AND DURGADAS WENT TO THE MUGHAL CAMP.

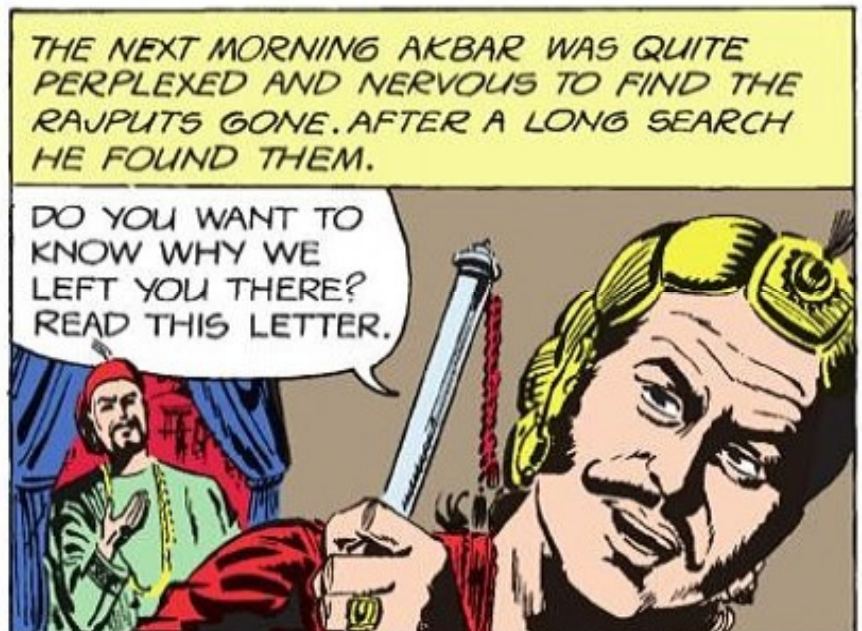




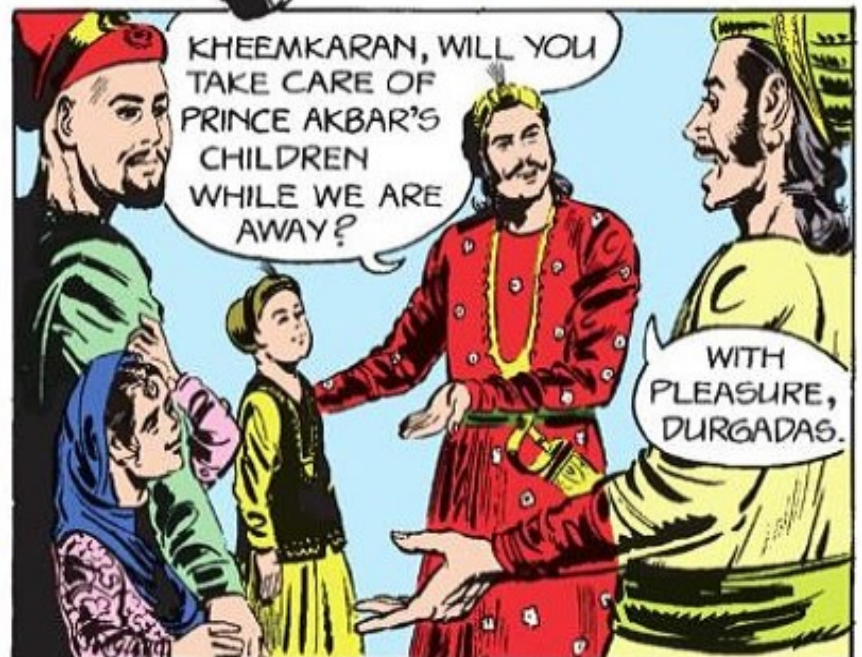
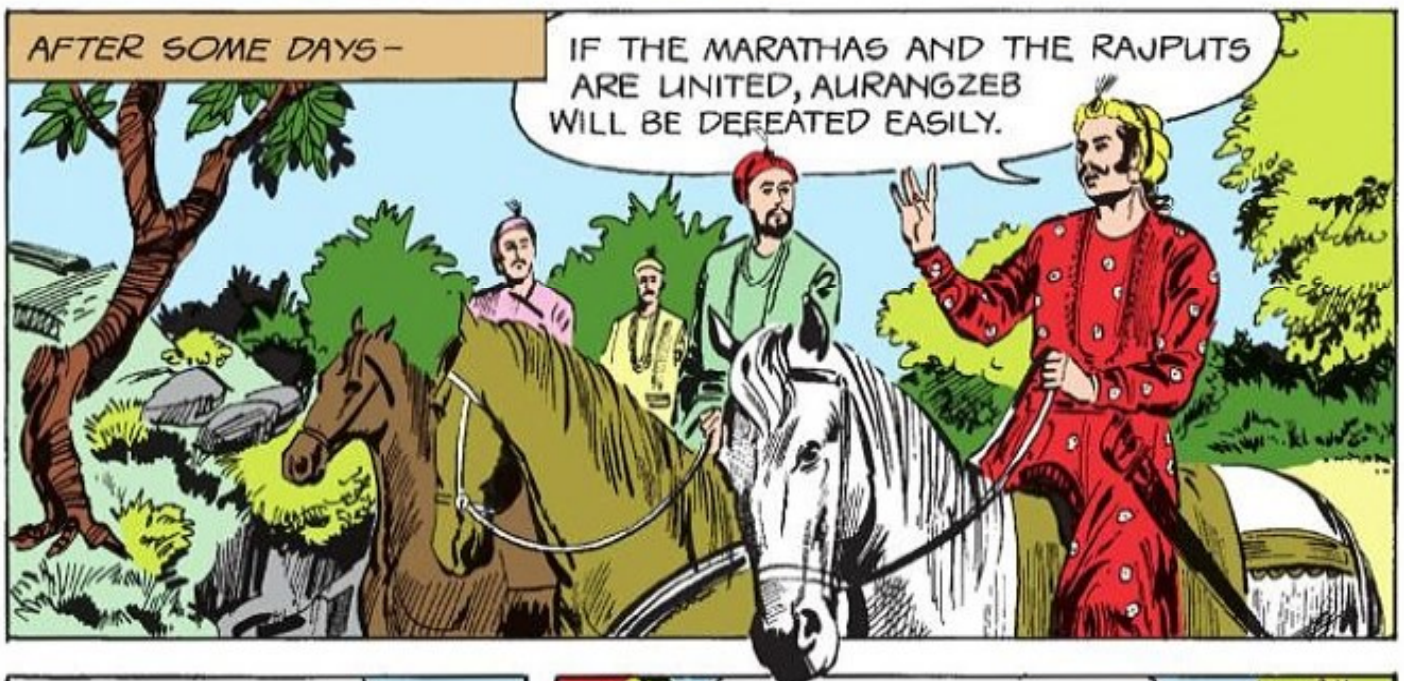
SOON, THIS SHOCKING NEWS REACHED AURANGZEB.













AT THE COURT OF SAMBHAJI, THE MARATHA KING -

WELCOME, DURGADAS!  
AND PRINCE AKBAR.  
WHAT BRINGS YOU  
HERE?

I HAVE COME  
WITH A PLAN TO  
DEFEAT  
AURANGZEB.

STAY WITH ME  
FOR SOME  
DAYS AND WE  
SHALL  
DISCUSS  
YOUR  
PLAN.

BUT THE DISCUSSIONS WERE IN VAIN.

IT IS NOT  
POSSIBLE  
TO UNITE THE  
MARATHAS AND  
THE RAJPUTS.  
LET US NOT  
WASTE OUR TIME HERE.

THE NEXT MORNING -

IT IS FRUITLESS  
STAYING ON; WE  
PLAN TO LEAVE  
TOMORROW.

I AM SORRY,  
I AM UNABLE TO  
HELP YOU.



DURGADAS WITH PRINCE AKBAR WAS ON HIS WAY TO MARWAR WHEN-

DURGADAS, YOU'D BETTER RETURN ALONE TO MARWAR. I HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS UNCERTAIN LIFE. I SHALL GO TO IRAN. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF MY CHILDREN.

AS YOU WISH, GO IN PEACE AND DO NOT WORRY ABOUT YOUR CHILDREN.

IN THE MEANTIME, HARASSED BY THE MARATHAS, AURANGZEB, HIMSELF, WENT SOUTH-WARDS TO QUELL THEM. THE RAJPUTS IN MARWAR FOUND THIS TO BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR REVENGE.

NOW IS THE TIME TO STRIKE.

LET US ATTACK SIWANE FORT.



THE RAJPUTS ATTACKED AND CAPTURED THE SIWANE FORT. AJEET SINGH, THOUGH TEN YEARS OLD BY THEN, WAS STILL IN HIDING.

NOW THAT WE HAVE CAPTURED THIS FORT, I THINK IT'S SAFE FOR OUR KING TO COME OUT OF HIDING.

YES, WE WANT TO SEE HIM.

MUKUNDAS, BRING OUR KING BACK TO US.

NO! WE MUST WAIT TILL DURGADAS COMES BACK.

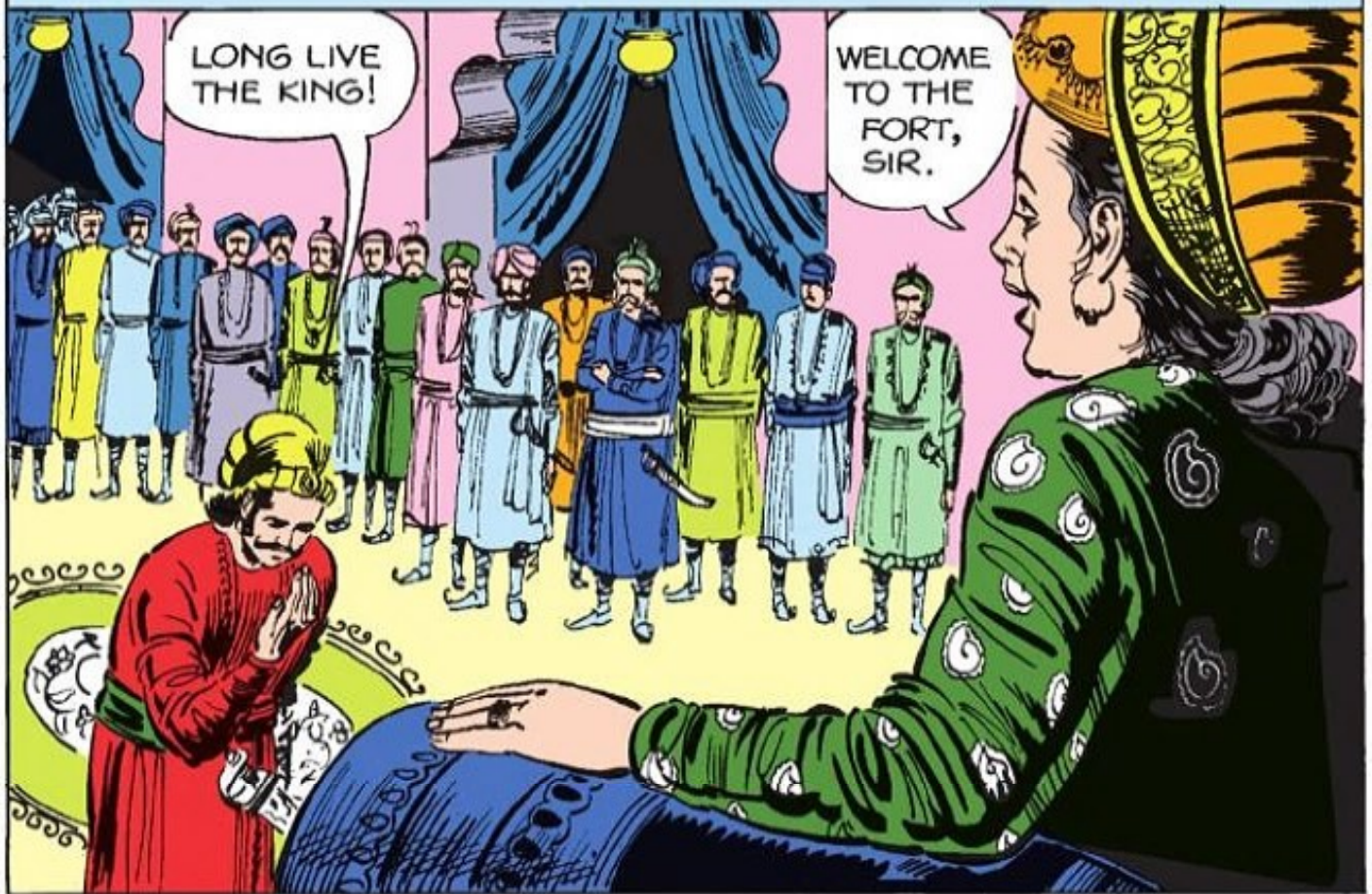
NO. WE WANT TO SEE HIM NOW.

FORCED BY THE RAJPUTS, MUKUNDAS BROUGHT AJEET SINGH OUT OF HIDING.

LONG LIVE THE KING.



IN THE MEANTIME, DURGADAS WAS ON HIS WAY TO MARWAR. ATTACKING AND LOOTING THE MUGHALS, HE REACHED SIWANE AND WENT TO SEE MAHARAJ AJEET SINGH.



IN 1692, PRINCE AMAR SINGH OF UDAIPUR REBELLED AGAINST HIS FATHER, RANA JAI SINGH, WHO SENT A MESSENGER TO AJEET SINGH FOR HELP.









DURGADAS MET PRINCE AMAR SINGH.

REVOLTS AND  
CIVIL STRIFES  
HAVE BEEN  
THE BANE OF  
US RAJPUTS.  
LET US BE  
UNITED AND  
FIGHT OUR  
COMMON  
ENEMY, THE  
MUGHALS.

YOU ARE  
RIGHT. I SHALL  
GO BACK TO MY  
FATHER AND  
SEEK HIS PARDON.

WITH DURGADAS'S EFFORTS, FATHER AND SON WERE UNITED  
AND DURGADAS RETURNED TO SIWANE.

AURANGZEB, WHO HAD GROWN OLD,  
NOW WANTED AKBAR'S CHILDREN NEAR HIM.

AKBAR'S SON AND  
DAUGHTER ARE STILL  
WITH DURGADAS.  
ASK HIM TO SEND  
THEM TO ME.

I WILL,  
YOUR  
EXCELLENCY.



SOON, AURANGZEB'S MESSENGER REACHED SIWANE.

A LETTER FOR YOU SIR, FROM THE EMPEROR AURANGZEB.

LET ME SEE IT.



SO AURANGZEB WANTS AKBAR'S SON AND DAUGHTER. BUT HE WILL HAVE TO GIVE ME SOMETHING IN RETURN.



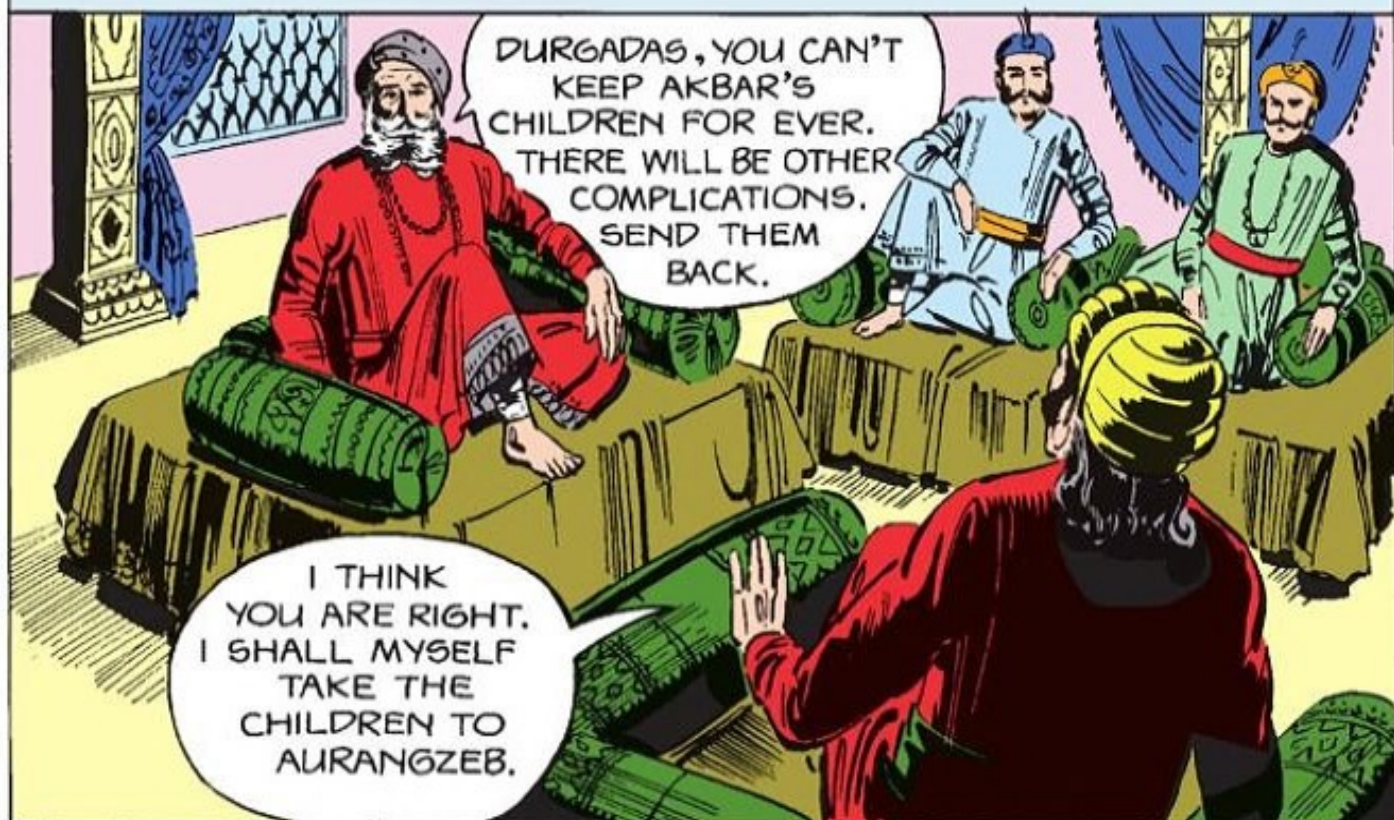
HERE, TAKE THIS REPLY TO THE MUGHAL EMPEROR.



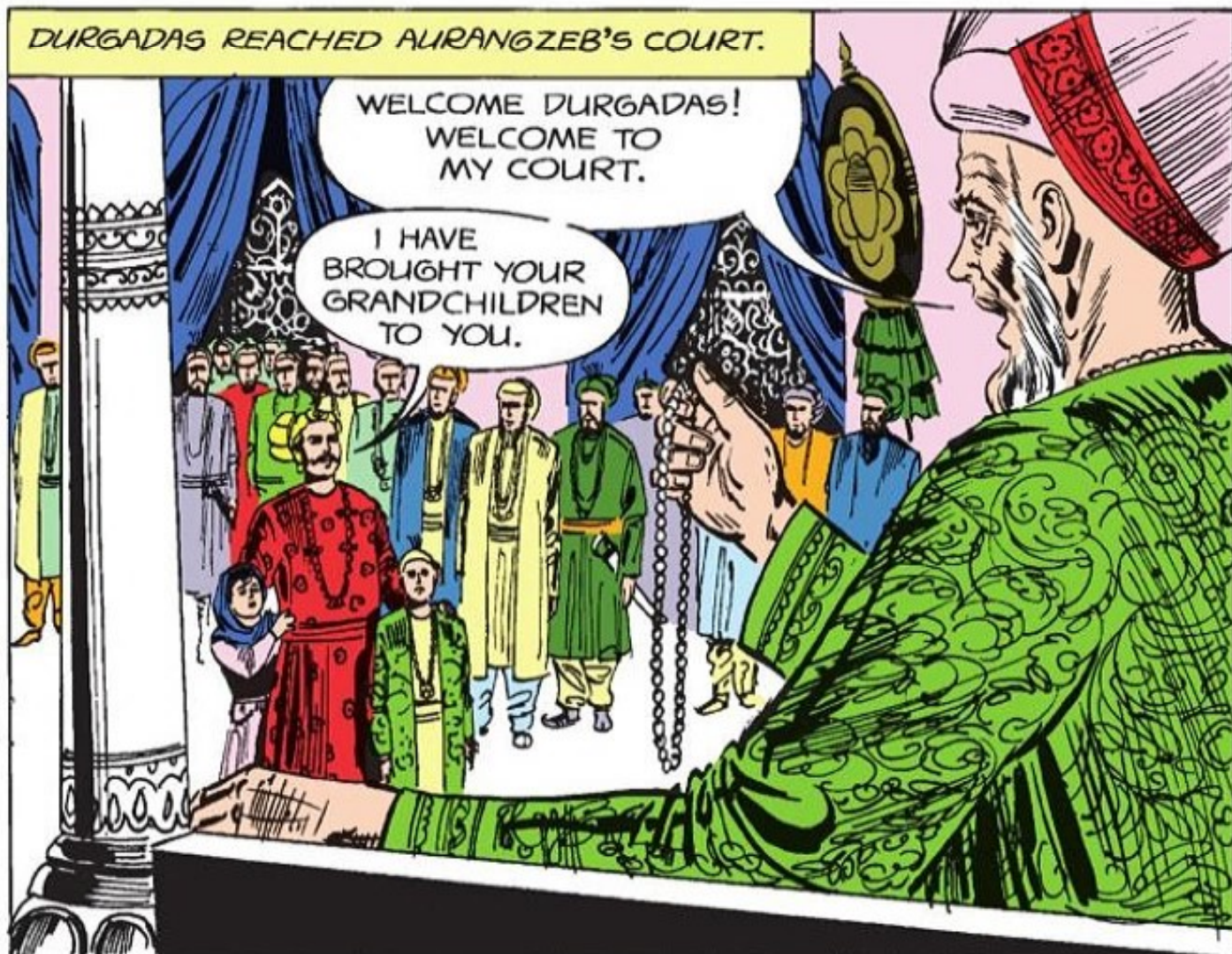
DURGADAS WANTS JODHPUR FOR AJEET SINGH, IN RETURN. BUT I SHALL NOT YIELD TO THIS BARGAINING.



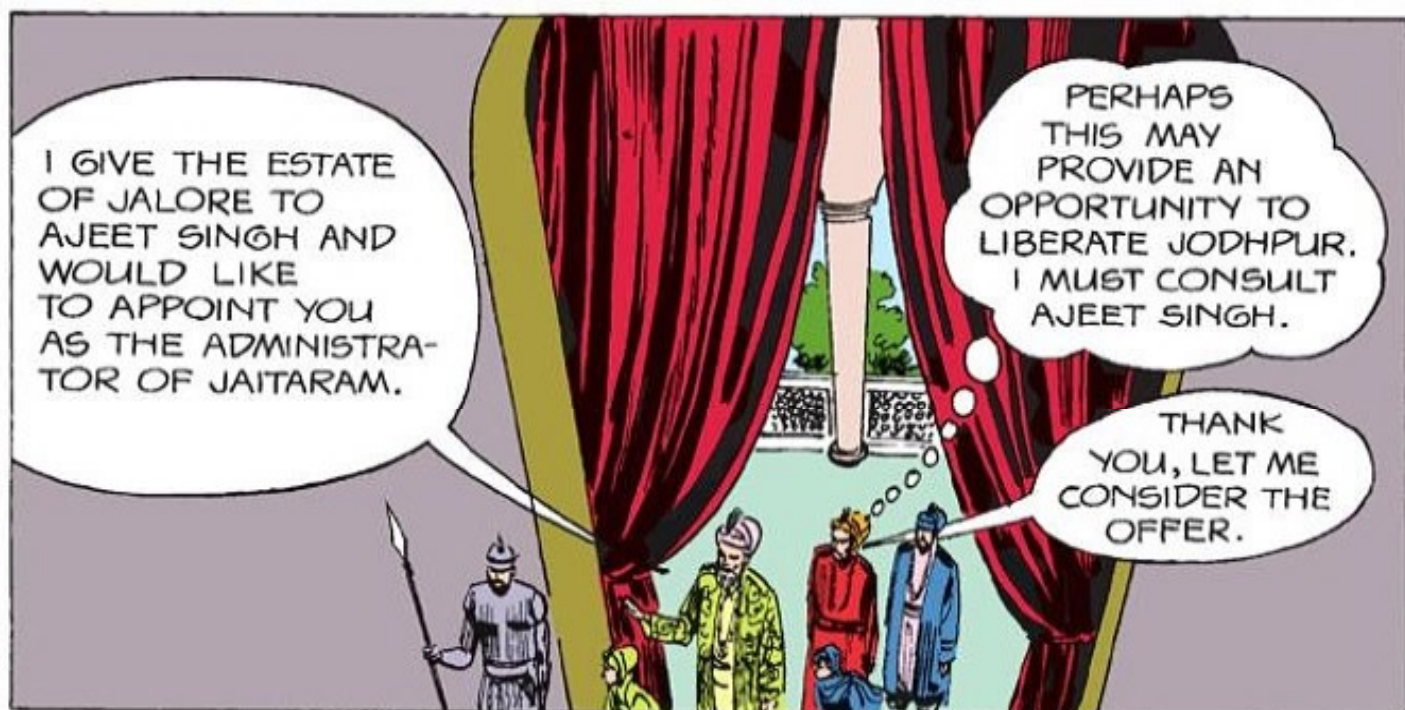
DURGADAS HELD A MEETING OF THE RAJPUT ELDERS.



DURGADAS REACHED AURANGZEB'S COURT.









DURGADAS ACCEPTED  
AURANGZEB'S OFFER AND  
THEN, AFTER SOME TIME —



AURANGZEB DIED IN 1707.  
DURGADAS IMMEDIATELY WENT  
TO SEE AJEET SINGH.

AURANGZEB IS DEAD.  
THIS IS OUR MOMENT.  
ATTACK JODHPUR  
AT ONCE.

YES, PREPARE  
FOR  
ATTACK.



JODHPUR WAS ATTACKED.





A FIERCE BATTLE TOOK PLACE, BUT ULTIMATELY THE MUGHALS WERE DEFEATED.



THUS, 29 YEARS AFTER THE DEATH OF JASWANT SINGH...



THE VALOUR OF DURGADAS IS REMEMBERED EVEN TODAY.  
A MONUMENT CALLED "RATHOR KI CHATTANI" IS STILL THERE  
ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER KSHIPRA IN UJJAIN, WHERE DURGADAS DIED.



# WHICH OF THE ACKs HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

## EPICS AND MYTHOLOGY

Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas

Abhimanyu  
Agastya  
Andhaka  
Aniruddha  
Aruni And Uttanka  
Ashwini Kumars  
Ayyappa  
Bahubali  
Bhanumati  
Bheema And Hanuman  
Bheeshma  
Chandrabasa  
Dasharatha  
Dhruva And Ashtavakra  
Draupadi  
Drona  
Elephanta  
Gandhari  
Ganesha  
Ganesha And The Moon  
Ganga  
Garuda  
Ghatotkacha  
Hanuman  
Hanuman To The Rescue  
Harischandra  
Heroes Of Hampi  
Indra And Shachi  
Indra And Shibi  
Indra And Vritra  
Jagannatha Of Puri  
Jayadratha  
Kacha And Devayani  
Karna  
Karttikeya  
Konark  
Krishna  
Krishna And Jarasandha  
Krishna And Narakasura  
Krishna And Rukmini  
Krishna And Shishupala  
Krishna And The False  
Vaasudeva  
Kubera  
Kumbhakarna  
Mahabharata  
Mahiravana  
Nachiketa  
Nahusha  
Nala Damayanti  
Pareekshit  
Parashurama  
Prabhavati  
Pradyumna  
Purhad  
Purushottam Dev And  
Padmavati  
Rama  
Ravana Humbled  
Saraswati  
Sati And Shiva  
Savitri  
Shiva Parvati  
Stories Of Creation  
Subhadra  
Sudama  
Sukanya  
Surya  
Tales From The  
Upanishads  
Tales Of Arjuna  
Tales Of Balarama  
Tales Of Durga  
Tales Of Indra  
Tales Of Narada

Tales Of Shiva  
Tales Of Vishnu  
Tales Of Yudhishtira  
Tapati  
Thanjavur  
The Churning Of The  
Ocean  
The Gita  
The Golden Mongoose  
The King In  
A Parrot's Body  
The Lord Of Lanka  
The Pandava Princes  
The Pandavas In Hiding  
The Parijata Tree  
The Sons Of Rama  
The Syamantaka Gem  
Tirupati  
Tripura  
Uloopi  
Vaishno Devi  
Vallu  
Vishwamitra  
Yayati

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Inspiring tales of thinkers,  
social reformers and  
nation builders

Adi Shankara  
Albert Einstein  
Anant Pai  
Babasaheb Ambedkar  
Basaveshwara  
Buddha  
Chaitanya Mahaprabhu  
Chanakya  
Chokha Mela  
Dayananda  
Deshbandhu  
Chittaranjan Das  
Eknath  
Fa Hien  
Ghanshyamdas Birla  
Guru Arjan  
Guru Gobind Singh  
Guru Har Gobind  
Guru Nanak  
Guru Tegh Bahadur  
Hiuen Tsang  
J.R.D Tata  
Jagadis Chandra Bose  
Jamselji Tata  
Jawaharlal Nehru  
Jayaprakash Narayan  
Jim Corbett  
Jnaneshwar  
Kabir  
Kalidasa  
Lal Bahadur Shastri  
Lokmanya Tilak  
M. S. Subbulakshmi  
Madhvacharya  
Mahavira  
Marie And Pierre Curie  
Megasthenes  
Mirabai  
Mother Teresa  
Narayan Guru  
Rabindranath Tagore  
Ram Shastri  
Ramana Maharshi  
Ramanuja  
Salim Ali  
Shankar Dev  
Soordas  
Sri. Ramakrishna  
Srinivasa Ramanujan  
Subramania Bharati

Swami Chinmayananda  
Swami Pranavananda  
Tales Of Sai Baba  
Tansen  
Tulsidas  
Vidyasagar  
Vivekananda  
Zarathushtra

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Enchanting tales from  
Indian literature

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Ancestors Of Rama  
Devi Choudhuran  
Durgesh Nandini  
Kadambari  
Kannagi  
Kapala Kundala  
Kumanan  
Maarthaanda Varma  
Malavika  
Manonmani  
Prince Jivaka  
Raj Singh  
Ratnavali  
Shakuntala  
The Adventures Of  
Pratapan  
The Elusive Kaka  
Udayana  
Urvashi  
Vasantasena  
Vasavadatta  
Veer Dhaval

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legends and tales of  
wisdom and humour

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Amrapali  
Andher Nagari  
Angulimala  
Bikal The Terrible  
BIRBAL STORIES  
Birbal The Clever  
Birbal The Genius  
Birbal The Just  
Birbal The Wise  
Birbal The Witty  
Birbal To The Rescue  
The Inimitable Birbal  
Chandralalal  
Dhola And Maru  
Friends And Foes  
Gopal And The Cowherd  
Gopal The Jester  
HITOPADESHA TALES  
Choice Of Friends  
How Friends Are Parted  
Hothal  
JATAKA TALES  
Battle Of Wits  
Bird Stories  
Deer Stories  
Elephant Stories  
Jackal Stories  
Monkey Stories  
Nandi Vishala  
Stories Of Courage  
Stories Of Wisdom  
Tales Of Misers  
The Deadly Feast  
The Giant And  
The Dwarf  
The Hidden Treasure  
The Magic Chant

The Mouse Merchant  
True Friends  
Kanwal And Kehar  
Kesari The Flying Thief  
King Kusha  
Manduka

## PANCHATANTRA TALES

Crows And Owls  
How The Jackal Ate  
The Elephant  
The Brahmin And  
The Goat  
The Dullard  
The Greedy Mother-  
in-law  
The Jackal And  
The Wardrum  
Raman Of Tenali  
Raman The Matchless Wit  
Sahasramalla  
Sakshi Gopal  
Satwant Kaur  
Sharan Kaur  
Shrenik  
Sukhu And Dukhu  
Sundari  
Tales Of Maryada Rama  
The Acrobat  
The Adventures  
Of Agad Datta  
The Adventures Of  
Baddu And Chhotu  
The Bridegroom's Ring  
The Celestial Necklace  
The Clever Dancer  
The Cowherd Of Alawi  
The Fearless Boy  
The Fool's Disciples  
The Golden Sand  
The Green Demon  
The Unhappy Tiger  
The Learned Pandit  
The Lost Prince  
The Magic Grove  
The Miraculous Conch  
The Mystery Of  
The Missing Gift  
The Pandit And The  
Milkmaid  
The Pig And The Dog  
The Pious Cat  
The Priceless Gem  
The Prince And  
The Magician  
The Prophecy  
The Queen's Necklace  
The Rainbow Prince  
The Secret Of The  
Talking Bird  
The Silent Teacher  
The Tiger And The  
Woodpecker  
The Tiger Eater  
Thugsen  
Vidyut Chora  
Vikramaditya's Throne

## BRAVEHEARTS

Stirring tales of brave men  
and women of India

A Nation Awakes  
Ahilyabai Holkar  
Ajatashatru  
Akbar  
Amar Singh Rathor  
Ashoka  
Babur  
Bagha Jatin  
Bajirao I

Baladitya And  
Yashodharma  
Balban  
Banda Bahadur  
Bappa Rawal  
Beni Madho And Pir Ali  
Bhagat Singh  
Bidhi Chand  
Bimbisara  
Chand Bibi  
Chandra Shekhar Azad  
Chandragupta Maurya  
Chennamma Of Keladi  
Dara Shukho And  
Aurangzeb  
Durgadas  
Ellora Caves  
Hakka And Bukka  
Hari Singh Nalwa  
Harsha  
Hemu  
Humayun  
Jahangir  
Jallianwala Bagh  
Kalpana Chawla  
Kochunni  
Krishnadeva Raya  
Kunwar Singh  
Lachit Barphukan  
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Raja Raja Chola  
Rana Kumbha  
Rana Pratap  
Rana Sanga  
Rani Abbakka  
Rani Durgavati  
Rani Of Jhansi  
Ranjit Singh  
Rash Bihari Bose  
Roopmati  
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Samudra Gupta  
Sea Route To India  
Shah Jahan  
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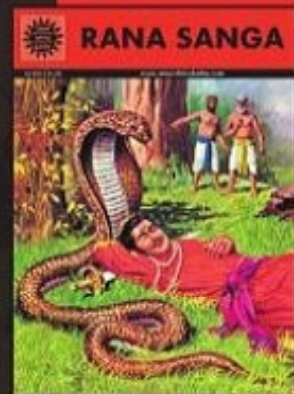
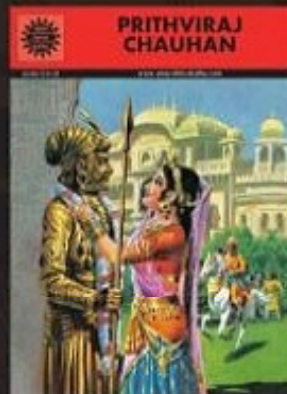
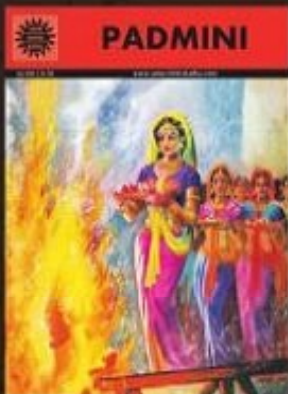
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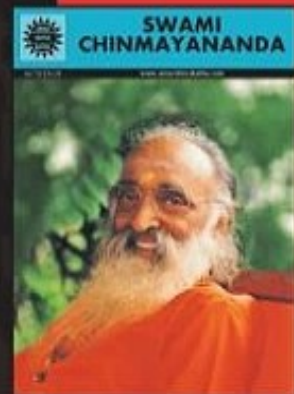
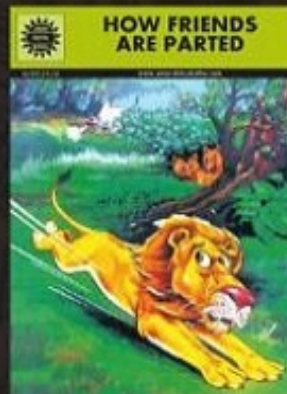
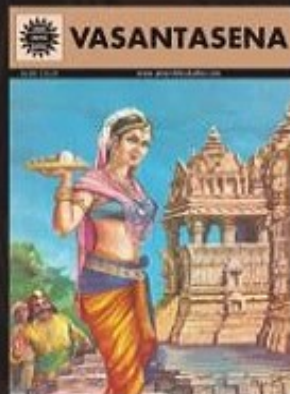
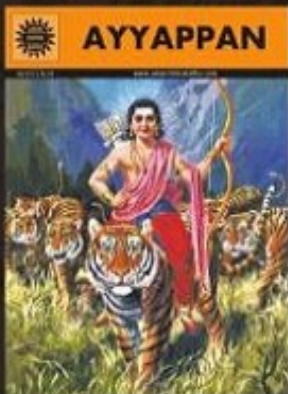
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